



# STATE OF UTAH

GARY R. HERBERT  
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH  
84114-2220

GREG BELL  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

July 16, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Increased Regulation of the Internet

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

High-speed Internet services have transformed the way Utah residents communicate, do business and contribute to the state's economy. Schools, libraries, hospitals, small businesses and residences rely on broadband services everyday. As Governor, I urge you to reconsider your proposal to impose regulations on broadband services. This proposal reflects outdated rules that could damage our state's economy and consumer access to advanced communications services.

According to the FCC, there are more than 510,000 high-speed Internet connections that span the State of Utah. These connections help people stay in touch and businesses run efficiently. Broadband services have become an essential part of Utah residents' everyday lives. I am concerned the proposed regulations will threaten consumer benefits and delay broadband's expansion into Utah's rural areas and the homes of our residents.

Utahns benefit from a current regulatory environment that has generated broadband's competitive services and products. Providers invested billions of dollars to create and maintain advanced networks, and must continue to do so in order for consumers to benefit. This investment has also spurred job creation which is necessary in these tough economic times.

The momentum of expanding broadband must continue. Additional regulatory burdens discourage, rather than, promote additional broadband access. Regulating broadband services will hinder the deployment of high-speed Internet and that is a risk far too large for our state to take.

I respectfully ask that you reconsider the current proposal. We need to encourage broadband providers to invest more and deploy their technology faster by providing incentives to do so. New regulatory oversight does not promise such incentives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary R. Herbert", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gary R. Herbert  
Governor

cc:

Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW, Room: 8-B115  
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Robert M. McDowell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW, Room: 8-C302  
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW, Room: 8-A302  
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW, Room: 8-A204  
Washington, DC 20554